

[25th July, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) The action taken to excavate further to find out the other hidden treasures?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) A treasure of gold, silver and semi-precious stones has been found accidentally in an agricultural land at village Mandi in district Muzaffarnagar. It appears from available media report that a substantial part of cache may have been taken away by the local villagers before the police could arrive at the site. However, about 10 Kg. of jewellery has been recovered by the police and has been deposited in the State treasury at Muzaffarnagar.

Subsequent to the visit of officers from the Archaeological Survey of India as well as the local administration, a few villagers have deposited a few items with the Archaeological Survey of India. These include a few gold ornaments and fragmentary pieces of silver. Some of the gold pieces conform to the Harappan period.

(c) While the Archaeological Survey of India proposes to conduct excavation at an appropriate time, no specific time-schedule can be indicated at this stage.

#### Creation of Tourist Police

287. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: SHRI  
ANANTA SETHI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

whether Government have seen recent newspaper reports concerning duping of Japanese tourists by Indian touts;

if so, what are the details of such incidents which have occurred during the last three years;

whether Government have received a large number of representations urging the setting up of tourist police in the Capital and other metros;

if so, by when such tourist police will be created and posted at various airports/railways; and

the steps taken to ensure safety of foreign tourists in India?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Crimes including duping etc. is a Law and Order subject falling.

within the purview of the State/UT. Administration. As per available information, complaints pertaining to crimes against tourists during the last three years are as under:

Year	No. of Complaints
117	
100	
103	

(c) to (e) In order to promote India as hassle free destination for foreign tourists. Ministry of Tourism has written to all State/U.T. Administration to set-up Tourist Police Force for the safety of tourists. States of Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Goa, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh etc. have already set up Tourist Police. Whenever such complaints came to the notice of the Department they are pursued with concerned authorities.

#### **Creation of Mahila Charkha Samiti at Patna**

288. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state.

whether Government are contemplating to make Mahila Charkha Samiti in Patna where Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narain lived for long years, a place of National Heritage;

if so, by when it is likely to be created; and

what are the norms according to which any building/premises is declared a place of National Heritage?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

Does not arise.

As per the existing norms any structure, monument or site etc., which is of exceptional and unique historical, archaeological or artistic merit and which has, in addition, been in existence for not less than one hundred years, can be considered for enlisting as a monument of national importance.